

Friends of Matthias Baldwin Park Meeting Minutes: 6/6/2019 (7 – 8:15 PM) - Tivoli Community Room

Attendees (8): Sandra Owens, Jim Fennell, Jan Roberts, Joe Walsh, Joan Markoe, Eve Adler, Bob Strunk, and Grace Hanrahan. Jim Fennell moderated the meeting. Minutes of the 5/2/2019 meeting were approved.

Calendar:

June Cleanup:	Saturday 6/22/2019 at 10 AM
Parks on Tap:	Wednesday 6/26/2019 – Sunday 6/30/2019 Wednesday 6/26/2019 from 5 – 7 PM (park gets 50% of profits)
Friends Picnic in Park:	Saturday 6/29/2019 from 1 PM – 3 PM
July Meeting:	Thursday 7/11/2019 at 7 PM (Note: changed from 7/4/2019)
July Cleanup:	Saturday 7/20/2019 at 10 AM
Movie Night:	Thursday 8/29/2019 at 7:30 PM – Movie: “Hugo”

Treasurer’s Report: Joan Markoe reported the current treasury total is \$16,996.97. There were two expenses in May: \$199 for a double order of dog bags and \$48.76 for Scavenger Hunt flyers. Dog bags are costing about \$40 per month, which is currently being reimbursed by the Parks-On-Tap reimbursement grant. Sandy Owens will contact Parks & Recreation to see if another park can use the old bag dispenser. Membership dues added \$700 to the treasury. Since the membership drive started on 3/25/2019, we have 57 members of which 31 were new members. (Note: In 2018, we had 30 members.)

Mural Arts: On Saturday, June 1st, at least 100 people turned out to help paint the mural consisting of a steam locomotive in honor of the Baldwin Locomotive Works. In late August, the mural may be installed on the wall.

Scavenger Hunt: The scavenger hunt which occurred on Saturday May 18th was a great success, with 40 participants organized into 16 teams. Joe Walsh plans to make it an annual event, occurring on the Saturday between Mother’s Day and Memorial Day. Among the lessons learned were to have fewer clues and make the rules clearer.

Movie Night: Joe Walsh announced that the park has been approved to show the movie, “Hugo”, on Thursday, August 29th at 7:30 PM. Parks & Recreation takes care of the set-up and clean-up. People bring their own blankets or seats. In case of rain, it will be re-scheduled, possibly to the following Thursday. Joe may try to get a Mister Softee truck to show up. There is a \$25.00 permit fee.

Park Maintenance: In late June, Jim Fennell will meet with the contractor, All Seasons, regarding our contribution of \$6,000 for plants for a fall park planting

Pedestrian Crosswalk Status: Jim Fennell said that in the next few weeks they will be removing parking spaces, but the painted stripes will be coming later at the corner of 19th & Hamilton Streets.

Sprinklers: Jim Fennell complained to Parks & Recreation that the sprinklers have not worked since May 31st. In addition to watering the park, they serve to discourage the homeless from camping out in the park.

Park Archives: Sandy Owens suggested that we take advantage of Parks & Recreation's archive located on the 10th Floor of 1515 Arch Street. In addition to minutes, flyers and photos might be archived.

Baldwin Birthday Banner: Sandy Owens displayed Stan Ordo's design for the birthday banner which was approved for funding. The approximate cost for a vinyl banner with gromets is about \$150. Similar in size to the "Love Your Park" banner, it can be displayed for other events such as Parks on Tap, Movie Night and Howl-o-Ween. It will be designed so that his age can be updated with stickers for the next 10 years.

FDR Park Renovation: Sandy Owens reported that the city is planning to spend about \$200 million on repairing the park's water issues by enlarging the creek and marsh and building a boardwalk over the marsh. They also plan to increase toilets. Located in South Philadelphia on 350 acres, FDR Park, which was created for the Sesquicentennial in 1926, was built on a marsh filled with soil from the construction of the Broad Street Subway.

Web Site News: Joe Walsh is posting photos taken during the park events. The website hit a peak of 562 users in May. Most were the result of posts on Next Door Neighbor. Check out the recent article by Joe Walsh on "The Lenape" regarding the original inhabitants of this area, at the park's website: <https://www.baldwinparkphilly.org/the-lenape>

Baldwin Locomotive: The Hamilton Family is donating money to the Franklin Institute to redo the Baldwin Locomotive area of the museum by 2024.

Tree Identification: Stan Ordo will work on the tree identification tags. Joe Walsh suggested that we might have an audio narrated tour of the park's tree on the website.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM. Submitted by Grace Hanrahan.